

Rombough, Kyrik

From: Smith, Kim
Sent: Friday, November 14, 2008 7:08 AM
To: Gustafson, Brian; Rombough, Kyrik
Cc: Duvall, Ron
Subject: FW: Attn hyperion air permit

Hyperion comment.

Kim

-----Original Message-----

From: Carolyn Carlson [mailto:c.carlson11@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, November 13, 2008 6:54 PM
To: DENR INTERNET INFORMATION
Cc: yourvision@change.gov
Subject: Attn hyperion air permit

To those of the DENR who believe that granting an air permit to Hyperion would benefit the future of the state or people of South Dakota:

When the news was released about Hyperion's intent to build a refinery in Union County South Dakota, I got the impression that the realtors & Hyperion reps involved might have driven past the site, tho doubt that they stopped their vehicles to get out to look at the land. They stressed to Union County voters the hope of economic development when campaigning for the zoning change proposal written by Hyperion corporate attorneys, but did not say so much about the practical nature of the process involved. They seemed uncomfortable and avoided me when I asked them what they planned to do with the tons of chemical byproducts left over from the 'cracking' process, I heard no public mention of the subject at their 'information fair' at the Elk Point High School.

Hyperion reps seemed very uncomfortable, then evasive when I told them I and others in the area know of many graves 'inside the fence'. A rep later offered that they would fence off one known family cemetery well inside the proposed refinery, at first offering a road maintained for visitation, then saying that there would be no road due to security concerns. A local anthropologist with authority to find & move the remains was told by superiors to discontinue putting a grant together to fund the work, being told the governor's office had the state department in charge issue a comment that walk-throughs by geological survey crews were sufficient site surveys to fulfill this need. I know of the location of 2 graves on a property surrounded on 3 sides but inside the 'perimeter' a simple matter for seizure by eminent domain when all else is in place.

I suspect that it has not been brought to your attention that well inside Hyperion's proposed perimeter are several acres of 'virgin' prairie, that has not changed since before Lewis & Clark camped nearby on the abovementioned surrounded property. I learned of the endangered prairie on a field trip with a botany class taught by Dr Theodore Van Bruggen who taught at USD and used many of the rare & endangered plants to write 2 books that I know and own copies of. The ecosystem is also endangered, I am sure. Hyperion's reps seemed quite awkward when I told them of this. The place is so beautiful that I chose to be married there in July 1981, so many exotic blossoms and even bugs I'd never seen before except in pictures... It has been protected by locals and enchanting to be there. Not that that seems to matter to those whose priority is to make money by -in this case- refining oil. I believe the prairie will wind up being a superfund site in my lifetime as that is where the priorities that prevail are. No amount of

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money will buy back what will be done to the air, water and land at this site, it should be protected not destroyed.

I was fortunate to attend a lecture by Karen Hall, a chemical engineer who worked at Flint Hill, Minnesota and witnessend the nickle-sized hole that jet fuel had eaten through a liner in one of the tanks. I learned that current industry technology is such that the tanks that 'product' is held in are covered by floating covers, that for some reason it is not seen as necessary to develop a means by which the amount of 'product' going through these tanks is measured. When the tank was emptied for inspection and the hole discovered, the damage was done. A 'fingerprint' chemical added to the jet fuel is routinely detected in water samples taken in New Orleans. Seems the industry has not yet developed liners that are immune to the chemicals they hold, I doubt most Hyperion reps know that. Ask if you like- karen_hall350@msn.com

While those with Hyperion are motivated by profit, and our governor is motivated by wanting to do something good for his state (and I believe, maybe, by being remembered for the doing) I would like to believe President Bush meant what he said when he released press statements last year saying industry such as refineries should use 'brown sites' to build, so as to use land that cannot be reclaimed by prior industial use, rather than land that 'nobody was doing anything with anyway' for other reasons, like farming, fishing, hunting, breathing clean air, studying rare species and respecting their dead, all of which are happening right now inside Hyperion's proposed perimeter.

Sincerely, Carolyn Carlson Burbank,SD